

You Make The Choice, You Take The Responsibility

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2 Samuel 24:1-10;12-17

Having “choice” suggests the opportunity or privilege of choosing freely. If one is able to freely choose his actions, then that one should freely accept responsibilities of his choices. It seems often that choices are made without having all of the necessary information prior to making a quality choice. Are you familiar with the old adage, “You do the crime, you do the time”. How about God’s law of reciprocity, “You reap what you sow”?

Verses 1-2

David possibly set in his heart to expand his kingdom without consulting God. Maybe he thought he’d arrived at a point in his life that he no longer needed to seek God for approval. God had so blessed him too. Have you arrived? Are you all that and a bag of chips? David was King of Israel. He was the bag of chips, the drink, and the hotdog. He had charge over all the land. But even he answered to a higher power.....God.

Verses 3-9

David’s leaders tried to talk some sense into him for they realized his intentions were not honorable to the Lord God. After all that God had blessed them with, why would he make a move without God’s guidance? We must allow God to direct all our steps, all our ways, all our thoughts, all our actions, all our reactions. Whether you are in charge or a lay member of an organization, God must be first!

Verse 10

As soon as his commandment was completed and he had his answer, David’s conscious immediately got the best of him. He knew immediately that he’d sinned against God and immediately he began to seek God’s forgiveness. When the Holy Spirit convicts your heart, do you immediately seek God’s face in a truly, humble and repentant state? Are you responsible enough for your own actions to throw yourself at the mercy of God? Are you saved enough to admit your wrong doings and welcome chastisement as payment?

Verses 12-14

Maybe since David figured he could make such a bold decision without God’s approval is the reason God allowed David to “choose” his punishment. It’s a little like picking your own switch (a branch or twig) and bringing it back to your mom to receive your whipping.

Verses 15-17

The scriptures say that 70,000 men died to the pestilence released by the angel God commissioned to carry out the punishment of choice punishment #3. Could it have been more deaths if one of the other choices were taken? Many more could have died from starvation. As well as many could have been killed in battle and would have been running for his life again for three months. David saw the angel performing God’s command and spoke directly to God this time instead of going through the prophet Gad. We thank you Jesus for your sacrifice at Calvary so that we may have a right to the tree of life....so that you Jesus are our mediator to God the Father. Is it about time you talked to God in the name of Jesus and seek him? Even if nothing else, we should be thanking Him for His mercy and grace.

Conclusion:

David realized his decisions were self motivated and not in the best interest of God’s people and God’s will in his life. Knowing God as a merciful God, he submitted his fate into God’s hand so that it would not be in another man’s hand. Man can be merciless. Have you sinned? Have you disobeyed those that have rule over you? Repent now and seek God’s mercy.